Throbbing Nights
Cinderella Story
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Hah—
Hah—
Hah—
Hah—
?
SO IT'S STILL A LITTLE KID!
*horse head demon
YO! YOU ALSO SEEM LIKE YOU'RE DYING.
WAS IT YOU WHO KILL THIS DATOU ONI*?
Quite onee-kun?
IF YOU'RE WILLING TO GO WITH ME, I'LL SAVE YOU. HOW ABOUT IT?
...shut your mouth up...
If you come any closer, I shall kill you...
Ha ha ha
THEN JUST TRY IT! WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

第一話　大江山草子（前篇）

FU-AH-!
*Note: Kazuki(千姫) 姫 means Hime/Princess
KAZUKI!
Hehehe
IS CLASSIC PERFOR-MANCE ART TOO HARD FOR HIME* TO DIGEST?
あぐっ
カサカサ
UH-OH...
つい
NO SMOK-ING INSIDE, KEISUKE.
あぐ
あぐ

KUGA, I DIDN'T THINK THAT YOU LIKE THIS KIND OF STUFF?
IT'S NOT THAT! BECAUSE I WAS GIVEN SUCH A CANNOT-DATE-GIRL TICKET.
I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO BRING YOU TWO BROTHER AND SISTER ALONG
I THOUGHT SO, TOO.
I DIDN'T THINK RICH GUYS LIKE YOU TWO SHOULD HAVE...
IF I HAD KNOWN THIS SOONER, I WOULD HAVE SOLD THIS TICKET TO KIUSHI...
AKOW...!

YOU TWO LOOK, SHUTEN DOUJI'S ON STAGE.
SHUTEN ...?
THAT'S A DEMON IN FOLK TALES.
THIS STORY IS BASED ON ONE OF THE JAPANESE FOLKLORES..
MINAMOTO YORIMITSU AND HIS MEN, BEFORE RECEIVING ORDER FROM TENNOU (EMPEROR OF JAPAN) TO BECOME MONKS... HAD EXTERMINATED SHUTEN DOUJI.
IN THE STORY, TOWARDS YORIMITSU AND HIS MEN, WITHOUT A DOUBT...
SHUTEN NOT ONLY DIDN'T ATTACK MONKS BUT ALSO LET THEM STAY A NIGHT AT ITS PLACE

BUT THEY GOT SHUTEN DRUNK ON WINE AND MADE A RAID ON IT...
WELL, IT COULD BE CONSIDERED AS AN AS-SASSINA-TION
QUITE KNOWL-EDGE-ABLE, AREN'T YOU...
HIME WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
NOTHING, BECAUSE JUST NOW...

IT'S LIKELY THAT THAT SHUTEN DOUJU AND ME... BY ANY CHANCE, OFTEN MAKE EYE CONTACT...
THROUGH A MASK?
EYE CONTACT?
Hime, are you saying that "that person" seems to set his eyes on me or something like that?
Heke...

IT'S NOT THAT, I JUST GOT A FEELING THAT HE'S WATCHING ME!
ザワ
ザワ
ザワ

KUGA? YOU DROVE A CAR HERE, DIDN'T YOU, CAN YOU DRIVE ME HOME?
WELL, EXCUSE ME, BUT I HAVE AN APPOINT-MENT TODAY.
.....
IS IT A WOMAN?
HEY, DON'T BE JEALOUS!
WAIT UNTIL YOU COME TO LEGAL AGE, I WILL DATE YOU THEN, OKAY?
WHO IS JEALOUS?! IDIOT!
AH? SPEAKING OF WHICH, HIME!
FINE! I'M GOING HOME WITH KIRA!
WHAT?
What is it this time?

THERE IS AN ANCIENT BATTLEFIELD NEARBY,
BE CAUTIOUS A BIT, OKAY?
AH HAH HA HA HA!
WHEN YOU TOLD ME TO GIVE YOU THREE TICKETS, I ALREADY FELT IT WAS WEIRD...

KUGA, YOU GOT SOME NERVES TO TRICK ME?
grin
DID I? I ONLY BROUGHT A FRIEND AND MY FRIEND'S SISTER HERE TO WATCH A PERFORMANCE.
JUST NOW WHO WAS BUSY WITH WATCHING KAZUKI THAT HE EVEN FORGOT ABOUT ME?
BECAUSE I WAS ASTONISHED TO SEE "THAT GUY" WEARING A SKIRT!
I THOUGHT "HE" HAD NO INTEREST IN "MEN DRESSING LIKE WOMEN"!
CORRECT!
SHE'S A TRUE-BORN 15-YEAR-OLD HIGH SCHOOL GIRL
WANNA HEAR HER THREE SIZES INFO?
HELL NO!

NO, JUST DUE TO HAND TOUCHING
Did you peep?
HOW CAN YOU KNOW? HER THREE SIZES.
.....
Performance property
YA YA YA YA
YOU THINK KAZUKI IS STILL A GUY!?
QUITE SENSITIVE, AREN'T YOU? BUT IT WAS NOT LIKE YOU THOUGHT
ARE WE STILL BUDDIES?

THERE IS NO REASON AT ALL!
FIRST, SHE DID FORGET EVERYTHING ABOUT US, RIGHT?
JUST TELL ME THE REASON, CAN'T YOU?
FORGET-TING MEANS SHE DOESN'T NEED US
EVERYTHING HAS ENDED ALREADY, THERE IS NO CONNECTION BETWEEN ME AND HER NOW!
IT'S GOOD ENOUGH AS LONG AS SHE'S HAPPY
EVERY-THING HAS ENDED INDEED, BUT...
THAT SWORD STILL EXISTS
AND KAZUKI IS CURRENTLY HOLDING IT.

BY THE WAY, LET ME TELL YOU, HER BROTHER WON'T BE HOME TONIGHT, KAZUKI WILL BE ALONE ON HER OWN!
IF THROWN INTO A FIRE, IT'LL DISAP-PEAR, WON'T IT?
WELL, BECAUSE IT'S MADE OF GOLD.
THAT SWORD, WITHOUT ITS MASTER, IT'S JUST AN ANTIQUE, ISN'T IT?
THAT'S IT!
HEY!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU ARE BABBLING ABOUT.
THE SWORD IS QUITE HEAVY, I DON'T THINK YOU WILL BE ABLE TO LIFT IT UP.

THIS IS YOUR PROPERTY. I'VE BEEN PRESERVING IT IN REMINISCE OF YOU ALL THE TIME.
NII-CHAN, WHAT'S THIS? ...A KATANA...?
What a stubborn guy...!
AFTER MOM AND DAD'S DEATH, I AND MASAKI NII-CHAN LIVE ON OUR OWN
IT CAN PROTECT YOU.
IN THESE 15 YEARS IT'S ALWAYS BEEN PROTECTING ME. IT'S NOT ANY MERE OLD KATANA.
YES
EH? AH...
WHAT'S UP, KAZUKI?
NII-CHAN, YOU WON'T BE BACK UNTIL MORNING, WON'T YOU?

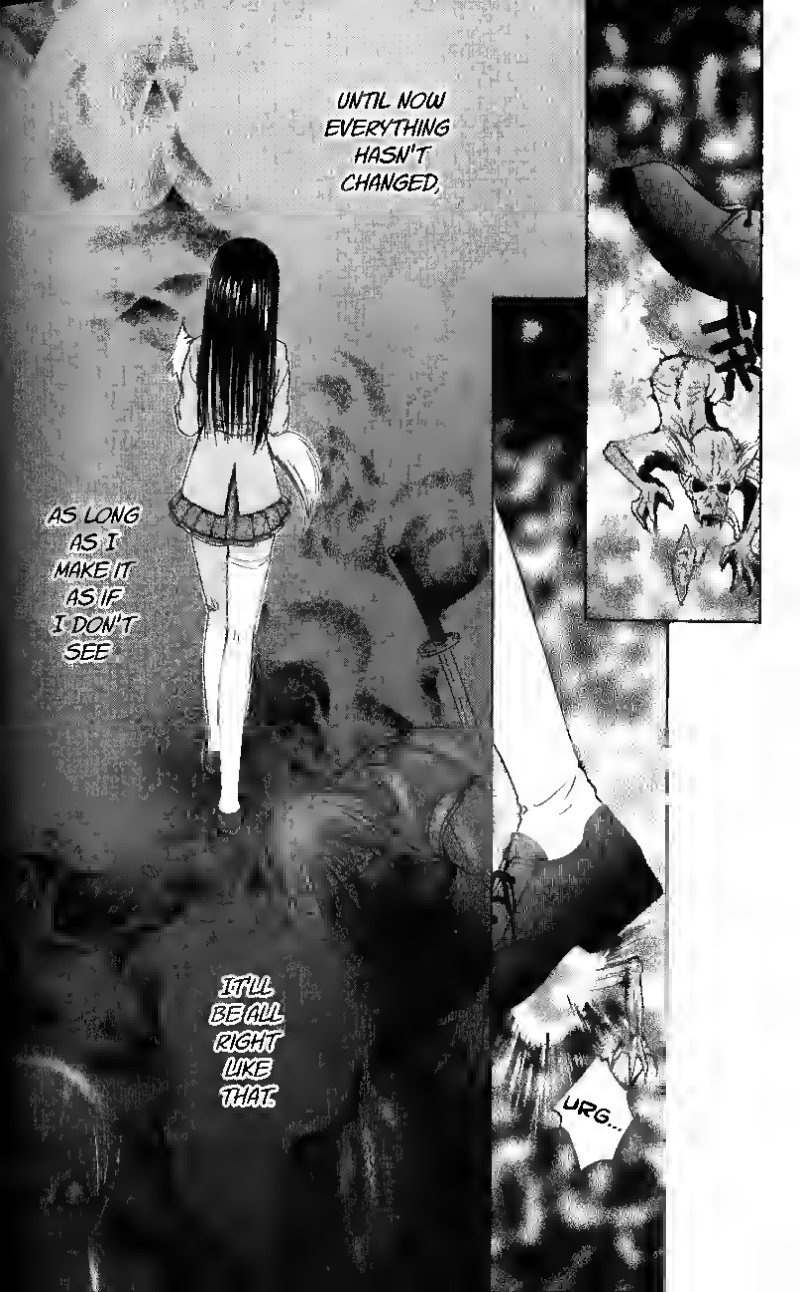
WELL.
HAHAH... I KNOW!
I'M NOT A LITTLE KID ANYMORE!
IS IT ALRIGHT FOR YOU TO BE ALONE?
BE CAREFUL ON YOUR WAY HOME
DON'T MOVE
UM... LOOKS MUCH CUTER THIS WAY
YOUR HAIR...

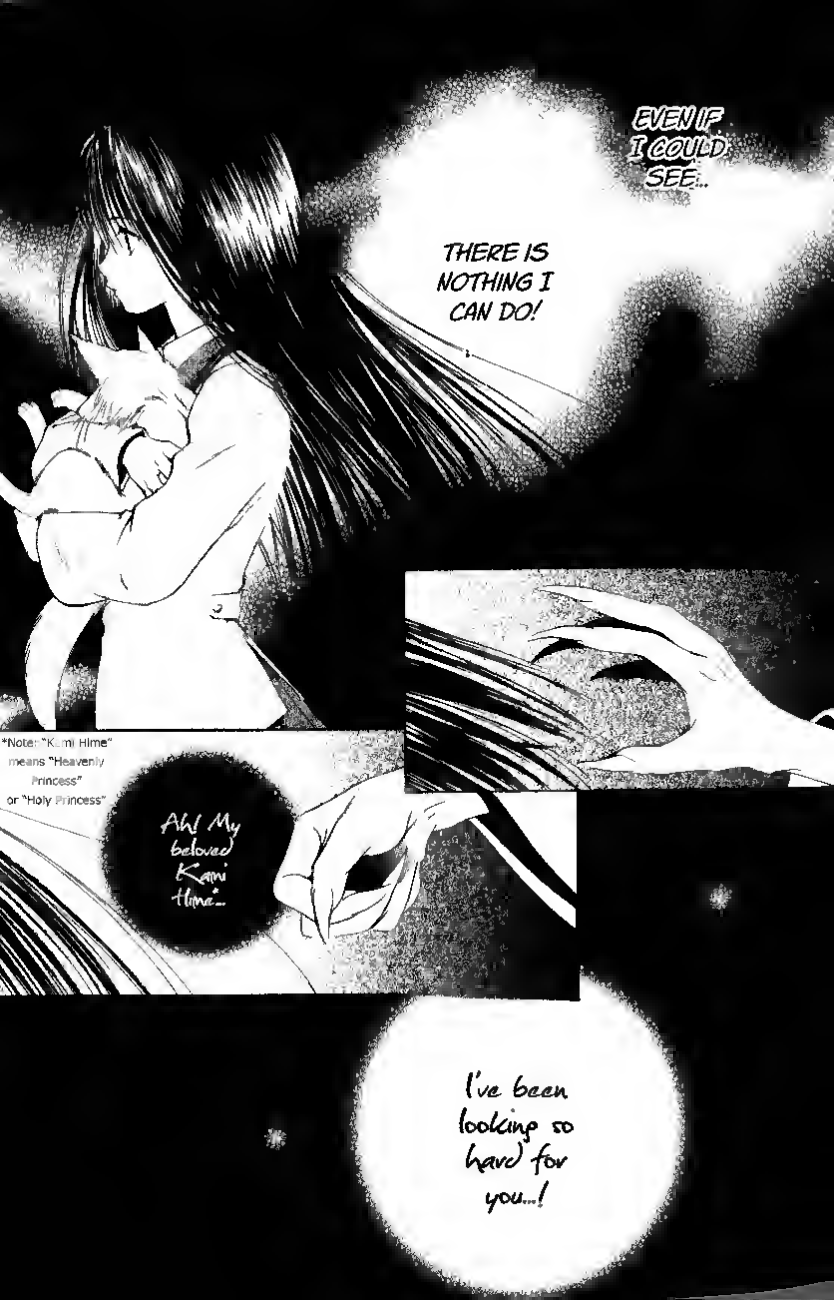
I'M GOING, KAZUKI.
NII-CHAN AND KUGA ARE CERTAINLY ENTIRELY DIFFERENT.
ALL THIS 15 YEARS, NII-CHAN IS ALWAYS PROTECTING ME
KIRA, HAVE YOU BEEN WAITING LONG?
Look, mommy! A doggie, doggie!
Well excuse me! I'm not a doggie!

EVERYTHING HASN'T CHANGED TILL NOW,
I'M COMPLETELY SATISFIED WITH MY CURRENT LIFE
AND EVEN IN THE FUTURE.
YES, THIS WAS THE PLACE WHERE YOUR FAVORITE SAMURAIS FOUGHT
HERE IS THE BATTLE-FIELD IN OLD TIME?
NII-CHAN DOESN'T KNOW ANYTHING
I DON'T HOPE..
SAMURAI DOESN'T EXIST ANYMORE?
MY PEACEFUL CURRENT LIFE IS STIRRED UP JUST BECAUSE OF THIS LITTLE TRIFLE
NOW THERE AREN'T ANYMORE.
YES, EVEN THOUGH THERE WERE A LOT SAMURAI BEFORE...

THE ABILITY ENABLES ME TO SEE THESE "CEASE EXISTING" THINGS.
KIRA!
WHO ARE YOU?
DON'T BE AFRAID!
I'M YOUR BROTHER'S FRIEND UM, I CAN SEE THEM, TOO
LITTLE PRINCESS, YOU CAN SEE "THEM", CAN'T YOU?

IT'S OKAY IF YOU DON'T WANT TO TELL,
BUT THERE WILL BE A TIME THAT YOU WILL HAVE TO WITNESS THESE THINGS HURT YOUR FAMILY...
BUT THOSE AREN'T THINGS THAT NORMAL PEOPLE CAN SEE, AREN THEY?
I DON'T WANNA LET NII-CHAN KNOW! PLEASE DON'T TELL HIM!
ARE YOU STILL FINE WITH THAT, LITTLE PRINCESS?


UNTIL NOW EVERYTHING HASN'T CHANGED.
AS LONG AS I MAKE IT AS IF I DON'T SEE
IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT LIKE THAT.
URG...


EVEN IF I COULD SEE...
THERE IS NOTHING I CAN DO!
*Note: "Kami Hime" means "Heavenly Princess" or "Holy Princess"
Ah! My beloved Kami Hime...
I've been looking so hard for you...!

IT'LL BE BAD FOR HIM IF HIME CATCHES HIM. HIME IS PRETTY STRONG.
His scarcness can't be described just by some simple words, you know.
TSK. ONLY IF HE OPENED HIS MOUTH TO ASK ME, I WOULD BE WILLING TO HELP HIM STEAL THE SWORD.
HUH? HE CAME, HE CAME!
ゴボ
WELL, JUST WAIT UNTIL HE'S BEATEN BADLY, THEN I WILL APPEAR AND GIVE HIM A HAND!

ゴボ…
ゴボ…
JUST THINK OF IT AS A DISGUISE.
BUT WHERE WE CAN FIND A THIEF WEARING ON-STAGE MASK WHEN CARRYING OUT A ROB-BERY.
-Hime!
We found Kami Hime!

Kami Hime is over there!
I want her flesh...
She can give us real body. Ah...!
I want to approach her...
ゴボ
ゴボ

HE BROKE THE BARRIER, THAT IDIOT!!
Open slightly
カラララ
FEELING LIKE I'M A REAL BURGLAR...

YOU HAVE NO NAME?
すう…
HE DOESN'T EXIST ANY-MORE.
THEN LET ME SUGGEST A NAME FOR YOU!
IT'S ALSO FINE WITH THAT, IF FORGET-TING EVERYTHING CAN BRING HER HAPPINESS…
THIS GIRL HERE, SHE ABSOLUTELY CANNOT CALL OUT MY NAME
—BUT…
WHAT ABOUT ME?

WHO'S CRYING?
I CAN'T SEE HIS FACE CLEARLY
"HE AND I HAVE JUST MADE EYE CONTACT"
"JUST NOW" ?
IT WAS FROM A LONG, LONG TIME AGO—!
AH!
NO!

カラン！

URGH...
UH...
DARED TO MOLEST ME AT NIGHT?
YOU'VE GOT SOME NERVES THERE!

Victim
WHO WANTS TO MOLEST YOU, SUCH A KIND OF GUY! YOU NO LADYLIKE GIRL!
WHO...
カ?
WHAT DID YOU SAY...!!

!?
I've been waiting for you so so long
My beloved Kami Hime

..HEY! IS THAT YOUR MATE?
YOUR GUEST?
It's way of speaking...
!!
WOOF...!
NO, KIRA! DON'T GO TO OVER THERE!

"DON'T WISH TO SEE, CLOSING OUR EYES IS FINE"
"NOT TAKING NOTICE IS FINE"
Heh
My dear Hime.
"IF JUST FOR PROTECTING YOUR SELF..."
"YOU'RE STILL FINE WITH THAT, HIME?"

WHAT?
HEY, PERVERTED MOLESTER!
TAKE OFF YOUR COAT
!?

NOW, RUN!
CAN'T YOU USE A BETTER METHOD...!?
ANNOYING! TAKE OFF YOUR COAT QUICKLY AND GIVE IT TO ME!
I've been waiting for her to grow up already for 10 years
I'm gonna devour her now!
I waited for 10 years already!

EVEN THOUGH I CAN DESTROY THE LITTLE DEMONS JUST BY STEPPING ON THEM
BUT THIS DEMON IS DIFFERENT FROM THOSE IMPS!
CALM DOWN! JUST RUNNING IS USELESS
THIS GUY SEEMS HELPLESS
BUT IT'S MY FIRST TIME TO ENCOUNTER SUCH A DEMON
"THIS KATANA"
"IT CAN PROTECT YOU."
THE KATANA!

WHY ARE YOU ABLE TO KNOW ABOUT THE KATANA. COULD IT BE THAT YOU'RE NOT ONLY A MOLESTER BUT ALSO A THIEF?
MORON! I'M NOT ...
Even though it's similar but...
NO BIG DEAL, ANYWAY YOU WERE DRAGGED INTO MY BUSINESS ALREADY.
I WILL DEAL WITH YOU LATER, AFTER WE ESCAPE FROM THAT DEMON SAFELY
YEAH, HOW SHOULD I PUT IT --- THIS...
YOU SEEM SO CALM... YOU'RE A GIRL, AREN'T YOU SCARED?

IT'S NOT FINE AT ALL WITH ME.
IF PRETENDING NOT TO BE ABLE TO SEE CAN PROTECT MY NORMAL LIFE, OF COURSE I WILL DO THAT.
BUT IF JUST IGNORING THEM MEANS I CAN'T PROTECT MY FAMILY.
BUT...
"WHAT'S YOUR NAME?"
AS LONG AS YOU'RE HAPPY, IT'S FINE IF YOU FORGOT ABOUT EVERYTHING BEFORE, IT'S FINE.
HEY! YOU THIEF, WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

YOU WILL BE—
THEN LET ME SUGGEST A NAME FOR YOU!
SHIROU.
WHEN YOU GAVE ME THAT NAME,
YOU ALSO GAVE ME A NEW LIFE, YOU KNOW.
OKAY!
LET'S RUN, SHIROU!

第二話
大江山草子（後篇）

A thousand years ago, I was driven to Mount Echigo..
I lost my original form and had to borrow a cold snake form, sleeping quietly at the mountains bottom.
It was that girl who woke me up,
It was her who made me regain my consciousness...
Only that girl is able to...!

IF WE WAIT A BIT LONGER...
WAIT LONGER AND WHAT THEN?
!!
IF THAT DEMONIC CREATURE CHASES AFTER ME, I CAN DISTRACT IT FOR YOU!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, YOU MUST BE HURRY AND GO TAKE MY KATANA!
NO WAY! THAT'S TOO DANGEROUS!
!!

KUGA!
KU...

How can he know my name...
I'LL LEAVE KAZUKI TO YOU!
ALRIGHT! I'M GOING TO BRING THE KATANA HERE.
JUST AS I THOUGHT YOU WERE HIDING SOMEWHERE WATCHING ME SECRETLY? WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON!?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO KNOW!?
I SAID I HAD NO CLUE...

Hah
Hah
...IS IT BECAUSE I'M A GUY?
...THIS GUY!
BACK THEN AND NOW... WHAT THE HELL IS IN YOUR MIND?

ARE YOU CONSIDERING THAT I CAME TO TAKE YOUR GIRL AWAY, AREN'T YOU?
BE AT EASE.
DON'T YOU WORRY! I'M BRINGING YOU TO KAZUKI NOW
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOING!
I DID TELL YOU BEFORE, DIDN'T I? "THERE IS NO WAY YOU CAN TOUCH IT."

*Note: Sorry! I won't translate Kuga's incantation
南無東方降三世夜叉明王
南無南方軍荼利明王
南無西方大威德
見我身者，發菩提心，
聽我說者，得大智慧。
Gvv...
KA...!!
SHIROU, STEP BACK!

Who are you after all?
That man should have already appeared already,
An onmyouji?!
陰
兵
闘
THAT DAMNED DEMON!
Can't it at least let me get a smile once?
SHIROU, LET'S GO!
AH... OKAY!
え!

WHAT ARE YOU CHANTING ING? time...
CREATING A BARRIER SO THAT THE DEMON CAN'T SENSE US
But just for a limited amount of time.
THAT DEMON...
WHAT DOES IT COME TO KAZUKI FOR...
DO I STILL NEED TO SAY? OF COURSE IT'S FOR HER BODY!
I'M ASKING PROPERLY!
HER BODY POSSESSES "THAT POWER".
JUST LIKE HUMAN BEING GIVE BIRTH TO CHILDREN
REGARDLESS OF GODS OR DEMONS OR SPIRITS, THEY ALL CAN PARASITIZE ON HER BODY AND STORE UP POWER ...

BUT... THINGS TURNED OUT TO THIS STATE, WASN'T IT BECAUSE OF THAT SWORD?
SHE IS ONE AMONG THOUSAND WHO IS ABLE TO OFFER A SIGNIFICANT POWER, LIKE A MOTHER FEEDING THE CHILD IN HER WOMB.
ONLY IF THAT SWORD IS ABOLISHED EVERYTHING WILL BE ENDED HERE RIGHT?
SHE CAN TURN BACK AN ORDINARY GIRL. ISN'T THAT RIGHT.
THE CLOSER THEY APPROACH HER FLESH, THE MORE EFFICIENT FOR THEM TO STORE UP POWER.
HAHAHAHA! AN ORDINARY GIRL.

IT WAS BECAUSE "HE" UNDERSTOOD THIS POINT, THAT HE JUST LET HIMSELF BE REBORN AS A WOMAN!
SHE WASN'T ANY ORDINARY GIRL AT THE FIRST PLACE!
THIS WAS AKOU MARU'S CONDITION OF BEING REBORN WHEN HE WAS STILL ALIVE.
BUT THERE IS NO WAY KAZUKI'S DESTINY CAN CHANGE
JUST COUNT THAT HER OUTSIDE EXPRESSION IS VERY CALMING VERY HAPPY
YOU CAN GET RID OF YOUR "ORIGINAL SHIROU LIFE", LIVING A DIFFERENT LIFE.

THE BARRIER BEFORE MIGHT BE ABLE TO TEMPORARILY PREVENT DEMONS AND WRAITHS,
BUT TO THOSE KINDS OF DEMONS THAT LOVE WOMEN' BODIES THE MOST,
KAZUKI'S BODY IS LIKE A GREAT FEAST, THERE IS NO WAY THEY CAN JUST IGNORE HER.
NO SOONER THEN AFTER THAT WEARING MASK DEMON JUST NOW. THERE WILL BE MORE DEMONS COMING THAT ARE ATTRACTED BY HER SCENT.
JUST ASSUMING THAT DESTROYING THIS SWORD CAN FREE HER BUT HER LIFE WILL BE IN DANGER AGAIN
EVERYTHING CAN'T BE ENDED THAT SIMPLY LIKE YOU THOUGHT.
YOU GOT IT?

I GOT IT.
THEN,
YOU CAN GO NOW.
WHAT !
YOU AND HER NOW HAVE NO RELATION ALREADY,
IT WAS YOU WHO SAID THIS, RIGHT?
I... I MEANT IF SHE HADN'T WISHED TO SEE ME, IF TO HER, IT HAD BEEN HAPPIER...
HOW THE HELL CAN I RUN AWAY BY MYSELF!
WRONG!
I'M SAYING THAT THE CURRENT ME CAN'T TAKE CARE BOTH OF YOU!

AREN'T THE CURRENT YOU POWERLESS?
SHIROU YOU.
YOU HATE THIS SWORD BECAUSE IT CONTROLS KAZUKI'S LIFE, DON'T YOU?
...?
RIGHT
THE SAME GOES FOR THIS KATANA...
NOT MOVING, ISN'T IT JUST A MERE ANTIQUE?
TURNING OUT LIKE THAT FOR THE ONE IT CHERISHS THE MOST,

IF THAT CAN MAKE YOU SATIS-FIED, ARE YOU WILLING TO GO BACK?
"THE CURRENT YOU HAS NO POWER AT ALL"
"NOT MOVING, ISN'T IT JUST A MERE ANTIQUE?"
"WILL YOU BE SATIS-FIED WITH THAT?"
THEN NOW I'M GOING TO CRUSH IT RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOUR PRESENCE.

MAN!
URG
...LET'S MAKE A DEAL!
I CAN RISK MY LIFE TO PROTECT YOUR MASTER!
IN RETURN...

LEND ME...
YOUR POWER..

TAKE YOUR FILTHY HAND OFF HER
The beast just now....
The thing in your hand... such a weird warmth.
What are you going to do with it?

ばばば!!
You're going to attack me? Why?
I can sense your smell! Even though you hide your self under a human form...
You still are...

FILTHY DEMON,
YOU'RE TALKING TOO MUCH!
BE GONE!

WELL DONE! NICE MOVE!
HA!
MY!

"STILL BE A LITTLE KID!"
WELL, YOU SEEM NOT BE ABLE TO LIVE MUCH LONGER.
..shut your mouth up.. if you've getting closer, I will tear you apart..
HAHAHAHA. THEN JUST TRY IT!
IF YOU'RE WILLING TO ACCOMPANY ME, I CAN SAVE YOU. HOW ABOUT IT?

I CAN SEE THAT YOU'RE AN INTELLIGENT DEMON!
What are you going to do after saving me?
Are you planning to turn me into your Shikigami?
Ahahaha
DON'T YOU WORRY! I WILL GRANT YOU A HUMAN FORM AS LONG AS YOU DON'T EAT HUMAN FLESH. YOU CAN PRESERVE THAT FORM
YOU WILL GET A HUMAN KID FORM TO SERVE ME!
Are you some kinda moron? What is the benefit for saving a powerless demon like me?
ARE YOU STILL DOUBTING MY INTENTION? YOU'RE NEAR THE DEATH ALREADY, YET STILL AFRAID OF ME?
I REALLY DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT WAS IN HIS MIND AFTER ALL...

I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT HE WAS WANTING.
EVEN THOUGH YOU HAVE NO POWER NOW,
BUT AT LEAST CAN YOU TELL ME SOME INTERESTING STORIES ABOUT YOUR LIFE?
I DIDN'T KNOW, I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND...
HOW IS IT?
WHY ARE YOU CRYING?
IF YOU DON'T TALK, HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO KNOW?
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
?
YOU DON'T HAVE A NAME?
THEN I WILL HELP YOU CHOOSE A NAME!
RIGHT!

HEY!
SHIROU?
WHY CRYING?
WHAT'S WRONG?
UH WAHH HH--!
UH...
UH...
HOW ABOUT "SHIROU"?
BECAUSE YOU HAVE A BEAUTIFUL PAIR OF GOLDEN EYES, LIKE A WOLF'S EYES

すぱ！
DID YOU KNOW ABOUT HOW SOON THINGS WOULD BECOME WITH YOUR ABSENCE, AND THE BARRIER WAS BROKEN?
BECAUSE YOU WERE HERE, IT WASN'T NECESSARY FOR ME TO WORRY.
DID I TELL YOU THAT I WOULD COME?
BUT YOU CAME, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU WERE STANDING HERE, ENJOYED WATCHING THE WHOLE NIGHT, HUH?
THEN DEMON THAT HAS BEEN SLEEPING QUIETLY AT THE MOUNTAIN NEARBY ALREADY IS ATTRACTED BY KAZUKI.
I WONDER WHAT WILL OCCUR AFTERWARDS?
MASAKI?

ANOTHER DEMON IS HERE.
NO BIG DEAL!
THEN HOW ABOUT YOUR BUSINESS TONIGHT?
THAT WAS JUST A BEGINNING
.....
YEAH, BUT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE ALREADY. I GAVE IT TO HER BY MYSELF BEFORE... QUITE A PITY
ISN'T IT HIME'S...
THAT FOX...

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
NO-THING!
THE ANIMAL YOU GAVE TO THE OTHER WAS KILLED, YET YOU STILL SHOWED SUCH A HAPPY EXPRESSION!
What the heck is his mind?
AKOU MARU SAMA...
LET'S GO, SHIROU!
WE STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO.

第三話

回歸之章——黎明

NII-CHAN.
NII-CHAN.
MIMI HAS DIED
SHE WAS STILL ALIVE YESTER-DAY...
SHE DIDN'T MOVE AT ALL.
I DON'T WANNA RAISE PETS ANYMORE.

I DON'T WANT THEM TO.
BECAUSE THEY MIGHT DIE,
NII-CHAN WILL GIVE YOU PET THAT CANNOT DIE!
IN THAT CASE,
A KIND THAT NEVER DIES ON YOU...
A PET THAT NEVER LEAVE YOU ALONE...

SO.
IT WAS A DREAM?
MASAKI, LEND ME YOUR BATHROBE!
Your clothes don't fit me.
WHERE DID THAT GUY RUN TO?

GRRRRR!!!
THIS WILL HEAL BY ITSELF! WHO NEEDS THAT TERRIFYING MEDICINE!
YOU... DO YOU KNOW HOW IT BURNS WHEN YOU APPLY THAT LIQUID!?
WILL YOU STOP MOVING!?
YOU'RE SO NOISY! I ALREADY EXPRESSED MY THANKS BY HELPING YOU APPLY THE LOTION,

HIME, HIME!
THIS IS REALLY AMUSING...
KUGA!!
WHO DID YOU CALL IS CRUEL —!?
What?!
IDIOT! STOP YOUR HAND IMMEDIATELY! DON'T TOUCH ME! CRUEL WOMAN!
He naturally got gone! bumps when her touched by women.
SCRZ
Women allergy
YOU SURE ARE WEIRD..

IS THIS KATANA THAT VALUABLE?
WRONG
Right, I'm thief! I said it, are you satisfied now! I'm at my limit already!
I DIDN'T INTEND TO AMBUSH YOU AT NIGHT, IT WAS TO STEAL STUFF!
ALRIGHT... IT WAS A PART OF MY RESPONSIBILITY TOO, STOP PUNCTURING HIM, HIME
IF YOU ALREADY HAD A HATRED FOR WOMEN, WHY DID YOU AMBUSH ME LAST NIGHT...
I think you'd better make it clear for yourself first...
THIS SWORD IS JUST A MERE OLD SWORD TO OTHERS
IT'S ONLY VALUABLE WHEN YOU HOLD IT, IT CAN FIND AND SPOT THE ENEMY'S "WEAK POINT" FOR YOU
I'VE KNOWN ABOUT THIS FOR LONG TIME, SO I INTENDED TO GET RID OF IT
SUCH A SWORD WILL ONLY BRING TROUBLES TO YOU,

HUH?
KUGA, IS THAT SO?
YES.
IT'S KINDA LIKE THAT.
DOESN'T THAT SWORD JUST WORK WHEN IT COMES TO EXORCIZING EVIL SPIRITS?
WELL, IF YOU KNOW SWORDMANSHIP IT WILL BE ABLE AFFECT EVEN HUMAN IF YOU ATTACK THEM INTENTIONALLY
IT'S SAID THAT IN MUROMACHI ERA, LORD ASHIKAGA YOSHIAKIRA
WAS DEFEATED BECAUSE THE ENEMY SENT AN ONMYOUJI WITH HIS SHIKIGAMI ARMY TO ASSASINATE HIM
LIKE IT SAID, SHIKIGAMIS ARE MONSTERS AND SPIRITS WHICH SERVE AN ONMYOUJI WHO DEFEATED THEM.

WAS A "LIVING THING" AT THAT TIME
THIS "GUY"...
ALRIGHT, I'LL GIVE IT BACK TO YOU.
I DON'T NEED IT.
CASTING CURSES ON THE ENEMY,
OR SUMMONING SHIKIGAMIS ON THE BATTLE-FIELD THESE WERE COMMON PRACTICES IN OLD TIMES.
MY ABILITY OF SEEING THOSE DEMONIC CREATURES, IS IT ALSO BECAUSE OF THIS SWORD?
IF BECAUSE OF THIS SWORD THAT I'M BEING CHASED BY THOSE MONSTERS...

IF THIS SWORD ISN'T HERE, THEN I CAN LIVE AN ORDINARY
THEIR TARGET IS YOU, NOT THAT SWORD
IMPOSSIBLE.
THOSE DEMONS IS DESIRING FOR YOUR BODY, ALL THEY WANT IS TO DEVOUR YOU
AND THE FACT THAT YOU'RE ABLE TO SEE THOSE THINGS HAD NO RELATION TO THAT SWORD...
WHAT YOU ENCOUNTERED, THOSE THING WILL KEEP ATTACKING YOU LIKE BEFORE...

DON'T DRAG ME IN
EH?
It's not like that...
BECAUSE OF MY FAMILY'S SITUATION, I ALREADY LEARNT SOME...
THAT WAS BECAUSE KUGA WAS SECRETLY PROTECTING YOU BEHIND YOUR BACK
BUT THING LIKE THAT NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE...
...
...
UM...
THUMP
YES!
I'M HUNGRY!
ARE YOU STARVING?

WELL, MY STOMACH JUST MADE A HUGE SOUND...
EH?
TODAY, THE SERVANT ISN'T HERE, SO WE CAN FREELY EAT WHATEVER WE WANT.
HEY!
SHIROU, WANNA FILL YOUR STOMACH AS WELL?
YES, ME TOO
WAIT, THAT'S NOT THE POINT!
I...
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT I MIGHT RUN INTO THIS SORT OF THING,
I...
NOW I'M AWARE OF IT...
STILL WON'T CHANGE
IT'S FINE LIKE THAT ALREADY!

HAVE WE EVER MET EACH OTHER BEFORE?
RIGHT! SHIROU, THERE IS SOME-THING..
HUH?
KUGA!
YOU MEANT "BEFORE BEING BORN"?
WHAT A JOKE!
Hahaha
"BEFORE" I MEANT HERE, NOT THAT FARAWAY! IT'S SOMEHOW LIKE...
WHEN I WAS A CHILD..
THUMP

IT'S JUST MY FEELING.
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
NO WAY
Let see there is something for us to eat!
CLICK
Well, eggs and tofu...

WHAT!
YOU'VE BEEN ALWAYS PROTECTING ME ALL THE TIME, HAVEN'T YOU?
THANK YOU!
DURING THE TIME THAT I WAS AVOIDING REALITY...
ISN'T THAT A "DEJA VU"?
Hahaha
BECAUSE YOU'RE SO GENTLE,
SO THAT I DEPENDED ON YOU TOO MUCH...
BUT NOW...
HIME...

REGARDLESS OF WHAT HAPPENED, YOU'RE FOREVER MASAKI'S LITTLE SISTER.
THIS FACT CAN'T BE CHANGED, RIGHT?
THOSE THINGS WON'T BE AFTER NII-CHAN, WILL THEY?
AS LONG AS THEY KEEP CHASING ME, NII-CHAN WILL BE OKAY, RIGHT?

BECAUSE THE ME RIGHT NOW...
AT LEAST I MUST BE ABLE TO PROTECT MYSELF...
I MUST THINK OF WAYS TO PROTECT...
IT WAS LIKE THAT ALREADY, YOU CANNOT TELL NII-CHAN.
I WANNA REMAIN BY NII-CHAN'S SIDE AS AN ORDINARY LITTLE SISTER,
THERE-FORE...
UM...
ALRIGHT! IT'S FINE, I KNOW!
I've got a feeling that troubles will keep coming from now on.
Where did that woman run to?

Ho
I wonder if he can fix some of my stuff, too. Kaoru?

HEH!
IT'S NOT A BAD IDEA MIXING WITH NATURE SOMETIMES, ISN'T IT?
THERE ARE EVEN PINE MUSHROOMS TO COLLECT
I WAS ORIGINALLY A WOOD SPIRIT,
SO I REALLY LOVE FORESTS LIKE THIS.
WEREN'T YOU A DEMON?

SPIRITS HAVE NO CONSCIOUSNESS AND HABITS LIKE HUMAN,
SO IF ONLY GIVING THEM A BODY, THEY CAN BE USE AS FIGHTING OR ASSASINATING TOOL, AND WHEN THEY'RE FINISH USING THEM JUST THROW THEM AWAY.
IT WAS THE PERIOD THAT I WAS PUT IN SERVICE AND MANIPULATED BY AN ONMYOUJI!
JUST LIKE YOU SAID BEFORE
AFTER DYING, THEIR BODIES WILL DISSOLVE UNTIL NOTHING LEFT.
AKOU MARU-SAMA HAD USED THAT SWORD'S POWER,
AND GRANTED ME THIS HUMAN FORM.

EVEN THOUGH I WAS JUST A POWERLESS KID, IT DIDN'T MAKE ANY SENSE...
HE SAID THAT TO ME.
SPEAKING OF THAT "SWORD"...
HAVE I TOLD YOU ITS REAL NATURE?
IT'S NECESSARY TO ABOLISH THAT SWORD ANYWAY, WHAT'S THE POINT FOR KNOWING THAT?
HAHAHAHA
HAHA, STILL KEEPING IT TO YOURSELF?
OF COURSE.

BECAUSE WHETHER THERE IS THAT SWORD OR NOT, KAZUKI IS STILL THEIR TARGET.
IT'S BETTER TO GET RID OF THE ROOT OF EVIL SOURCE SOONEST
LIKE THAT, THE CHAIN TIEING AKOU MARU-SAMA AND THAT SWORD WILL BE CUT, THE "PROMISE" WILL BE INVALID, RIGHT?
WITHOUT THAT THING'S POWER,
I STILL HAVE MY OWN FIGHTING WAY.
YOUR FIGHTING WAY?

ONLY IF YOU CAN GIVE UP THIS "SHIROU" NAME,
RIGHT?
FOR HER SAKE, I CAN.
WHAT A BIG MUSH-ROOM!

ISN'T THIS PLACE PRIVATE LAND?
WHO CARES! SELLING THESE CAN GIVE US A BARGAIN...
OW!
WHAT DID I STEP ON?
..?
THAT THE HELL IS THIS?
HEY, WE WON'T BE WAITING FOR YOU!
WHAT THE HELL IS A STONE DOING HERE!!?
HOLD ON, THERE IS A WEIRD STONE HERE...
BLOCKED OTHER'S PATH----!
AH!

What's it?
That weird aura just now..
Damn! Living in this human form for so long, my sense has been rusty!
IT BECAME QUIET AGAIN ?

WHAT...IT THAT THING?
STRANGE QUADRU-PED?

WHAT—IS THAT THING?
STRANGE QUADRUPED?

H-HEY...!?
DAMNED HURT...
EH?
HUH?

A WOMAN!
FEMALE!
GASP!
TOUCH
HOW COME THERE IS NO REAC-TION?
WHY IS IT?

Back home
HIME... YOU CAN'T EVEN MAKE AN OMLETTE, WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO THEN?
Do some simple dish, can't you...
Whoh, it's amazing Kuspl
IS BOILED EGG OKAY?
Explode

第四話　回歸之章

―迷路森林―

THE CEREMONIAL KIMONO I PUT HERE IS GONE?
EH?
NII-CHAN, YOU'RE BACK!
I'M HOME -!
HEY!
Lunch Lunch
IT'S KUGA'S COOKING! GET READY AND HAVE LUNCH!
Huh?
WHAT A DELICIOUS SMELL
What are you cooking?
Am I thinking too much or does your coat seem different from yesterday?

KEISUKEI, DRESSING LIKE THAT REALLY FITS YOU PERFECTLY!
ANSWER MY QUESTION.
WHAT'S WITH "I'M HOME"? WHERE THE HELL DID YOU RUN OFF TO?
IT'S NOTHING REALLY IN PARTICULAR TO WORRY ABOUT!
Then let me ask you.
WHERE IS THE FOX?
So? Like I would believe that!
YOU MEAN ITS CORPSE? I THREW IT AWAY.
Threw...
YOU THREW IT AWAY?!
Isn't it the pet that you've been rousing for over 10 years!?
YES, BECAUSE TODAY IS GARBAGE DAY...
YOU EVEN THREW IT AWAY ALONG WITH GARBAGE?

I WAS AFRAID THAT THE SWEEPER WOULD BE UNHAPPY TO SEE IT, SO I USED NEWSPAPERS TO WRAP IT UP AND BROUGHT IT ALONG WITH THE RUBBISH TO THE GARBAGE PLACE PROPERLY
NO NEED TO DESCRIBE THAT SUCH DETAILS!
YOU'RE SUCH A...!!
YOU...
KEISUKE?
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL OF IT?
NEVER MIND
SO YOU WENT TO TAKE OUT THE GARBAGE?
A WOMAN?
A guest?
NOT REALLY, BECAUSE THERE WILL BE A GUEST STAYING HERE FROM TODAY ONWARDS, SO I WENT BUY SOME STUFF
YES
BUT I GUESS SHE'S UNDER YOUR LEGAL AGE
A teenager again...
Im hungry —

This kid...
She's not human being.
But she possesses a human form... what type of spirits is she?
She's... the same as me

WHAT YOUR NAME?
YOU DON'T HAVE NAME?
ぐいっ
sfx shake shake
I HAVE THAT PERSON NAMED ME
IS THAT SO...
THIS NAME IS ONLY TO BE CALLED BY THAT PERSON,
WHY MUST I TELL YOU?
SHIROU...
...WELL,
YOU'RE RIGHT.
...

THE NAME WILL BE MEANING-LESS,
IF IT ISN'T THAT PERSON CALLING IT, RIGHT?
ギィ
WIND IS GETTING STRON-GER

WHAT IS IT?
ENEMY.
HUH?
"IT WAS THAT PERSON WHO NAMED ME..."

Giving a spirit a name,
is the method of binding [illegible] spirit
Those mushrooms should be around the pine trees, right?
Dumbass!
IF YOU HAVE TIME TO TALK TRIFLES THEN HELP ME FIND THE PINE MUSHROOMS!
We're getting in quite deep already.
KYOU-KUN, LET'S GO BACK—
BUT...
THERE ISN'T RESTRICTION WARNING BOARD, WHY DOES NO ONE DARE TO ENTER THIS PLACE?
AH... I, I USED TO HEAR ABOUT THIS!
MOMMY!

I HEAR PEOPLE SAY THAT THERE IS A PLACE IN MOUTAIN CALLED "FORBIDDEN FOREST"
This forest must be cursed
WHAT ERA ARE YOU IN NOW?
GYAAAAAAAH!!
MOM-MY!
I'M GONNA DIE SOON!
CENTI-PEDE! I WAS BIT BY A CEN-TIPEDE!
SO IT WAS A CENTI-PEDE
PEOPLE CAN'T DIE BECAUSE OF CENTIPEDE'S BITE, YOU KNOW!
Let me see!
Damned kid!
!?
KYOU-KUN, WHAT'S WRONG?
I STILL THINK WE'D BETTER GO HOME.

ARGH!
GAAAAAA!!!
AH...
AH...?
AGH!

SHIROU-KUN—
SHIROU-KUN, WELCOME, WELCOME! I'M KAZUKI'S OLDER BROTHER, MASAKI SHOU
I'VE HEARD ABOUT IT FROM KEISUKE ALREADY
WHEN I WAS ABSENT FROM HOME, I DIDN'T EXPECT SUCH A THING WOULD OCCUR... I TRULY APPRECIATE YOU FOR HELPING MY SISTER! PLEASE MAKE OUR HOUSE YOUR HOME, REST UNTIL YOUR WOUND HEALS, OKAY?
AH?

PLEASE, YOU SHOULD HAVE GET RID OF THAT DISGUSTING SMILE AS WELL!
That Masaki!
NO PROBLEM! YOU'RE WELCOME!
Hahaha
THAT'S MY LINE, SORRY FOR BEING TOO TROUBLE-SOME
AH EH
Blushing because he looks like the sister
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
NOTHING... JUST TAKING A WALK
THIS FOREST IS CALL THE "CURSED FOREST" THEREFORE EVEN NEARBY RESIDENTS DON'T DARE TO APPROACH,
SO IF YOU'RE GETTING INTO THIS FOREST TOO FAR, YOU MIGHT BE UNABLE TO GO BACK!
Ha ha ha ha
HUH?
BUT ISN'T THIS WHOLE MOUNTAIN IN YOUR FAMILY'S OWNERSHIP...
Kuga told me...
THE REASON OF BUYING THIS FOREST WAS JUST BECAUSE IT'S A "CURSED" FOREST.

"I'VE GOTTA GO!"
LET'S GO HOME
KAZUKI IS WAITING FOR US.
MY NII-CHAN C. ME TO PICK ME UP.

GYAHHHH!
Are you planning on startle people to death... suddenly setting your face that close to him...
ドキドキ
ドキ
NO NO..
NO-THING
EH?!
ビキ
WHAT'S WRONG, SHIROU-KUN?
ひょこ

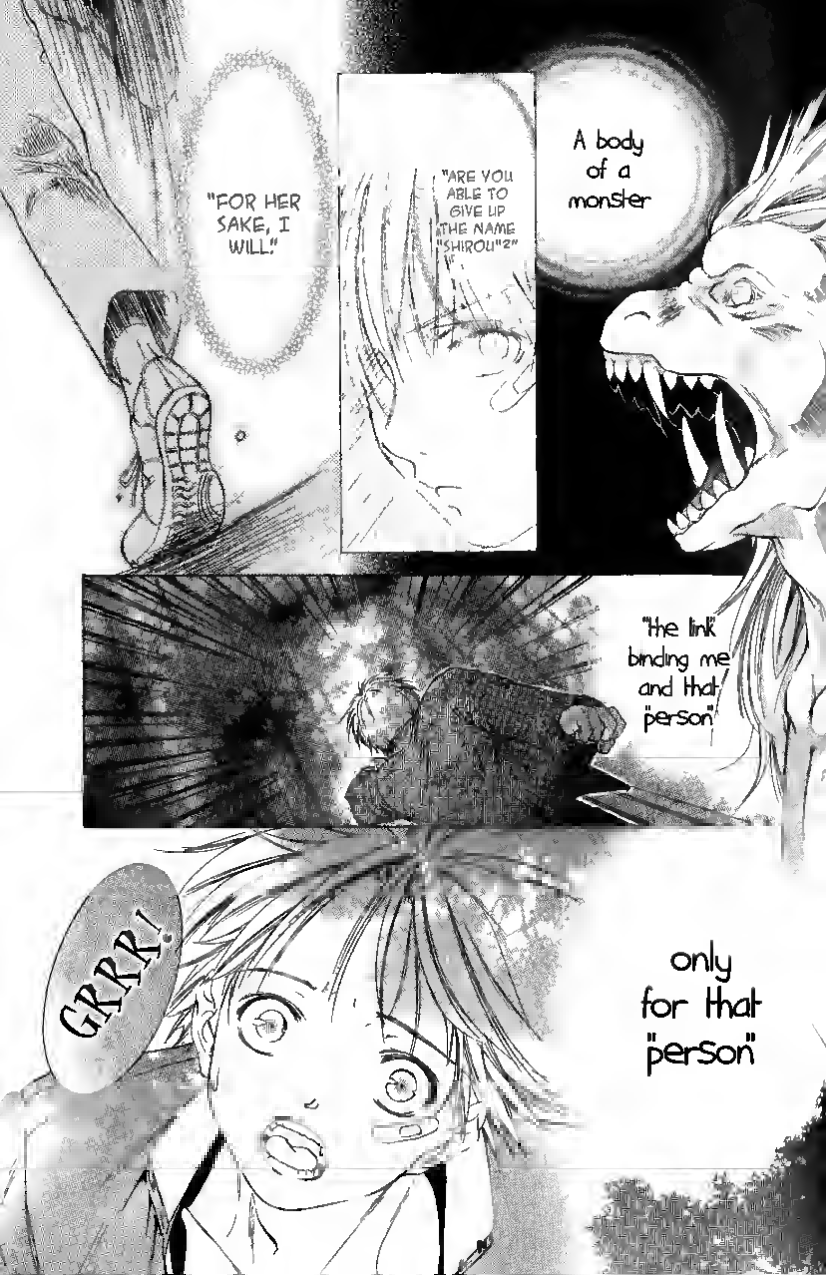
HELP.. HELP ME!
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
I don't like to be hugged by a guy, you know...
MY...
HELP ME!
MY FRIEND IS DEAD!
WHILE WE WERE PICKING UP PINE MUSHROOMS, THERE WAS THIS UNKNOWN CREATURE THAT POPPED UP AND KILLED HIM!
WHAT WAS THE UNKNOWN CREATURE?
ITS MOVEMENT WAS TOO FAST, I COULDN'T SEE CLEARLY!
AND IT WAS FLYING AMONG TREES IN THE FOREST...
IT'S DEFINITELY NOT HUMAN!

Then... there are times when she couldn't control even her consciousness
If that person orders her to kill people...
"THAT PERSON NAMED ME,"
If she was named by someone,

TSK, WHO TOLD THEM TO COME TO PICK MUSH-ROOMS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY...
WE SHOULD GO AND TAKE A LOOK TOO! THERE SEEMS TO BE TROUBLE AGAIN
SHIROU!
...
IT SEEMS THAT YOUR MISUNDER-STANDING ABOUT ME IS QUITE DRA-MATIC ROO...
No way
YOU... DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE RAISING THOSE TYPES OF "GUARDING DOG" OR SOMETHING?

As long as that is the master's order.
If it is a spirit, there is no way they would harm people.
it would remain at the place it was ordered forever
no consiousness,
No purpose,
She is also someone like me!
Even though I have no idea who she is, but.
I must save her!
I must help her get back her original form!

"IF IT ISN'T THAT PERSON CALLING IT, RIGHT?"
"THE NAME WILL BE MEANING-LESS,"
"WITHOUT THAT THING'S POWER, I STILL HAVE MY OWN WAY OF FIGHTING"
No emotion, no sense of hurt anymore.
Only if I could get back my original form.
Going back to "no name" state...
Original form...


A body of a monster
"ARE YOU ABLE TO GIVE UP THE NAME "SHIROU"?"
"FOR HER SAKE, I WILL."
"the link binding me and that person"
only for that "person"
GRRR!

ギロ

GRR
So the culprit was not her.
Phew.
WAI-
STOP IT, KIRA!
She's got hurt..!
!!

STOP CHASING!
COME BACK HERE, KIRA!

"MY NAME "

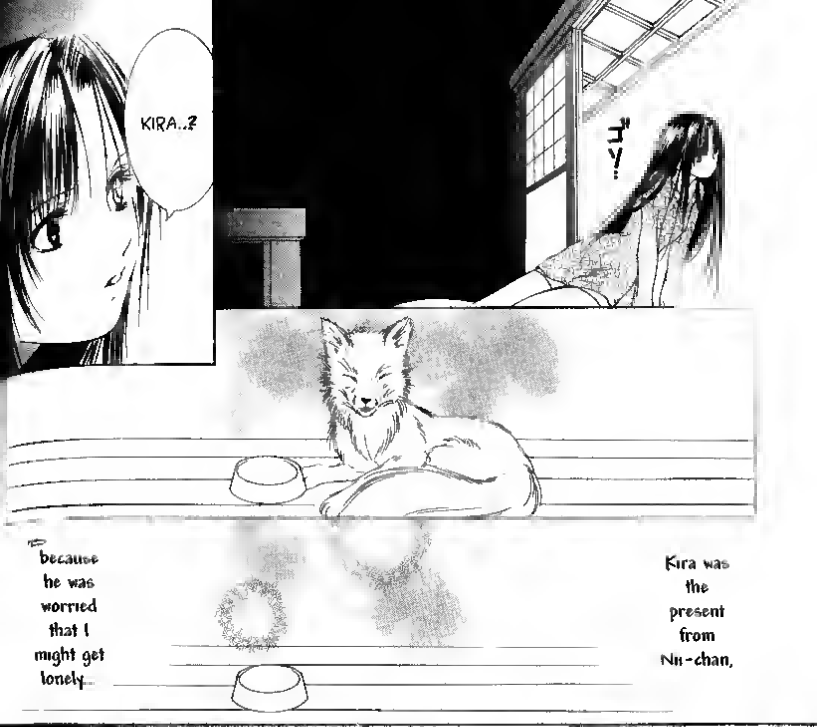
"THAT PERSON GAVE IT TO ME.."

I DON'T HAVE A FATHER OR A MOTHER, I DON'T EVEN REMEMBER THEIR APPEARANCE.
BUT THAT'S NO BIG DEAL TO ME.
BECAUSE I HAVE NII-CHAN WITH ME
HAVING NII-CHAN WITH ME IS ENOUGH.
I DON'T NEED ANYONE BUT HIM.
...SO YOU ALSO DON'T NEED ME?

第五話　回歸之章

——心願——

TOO SLOW
IT MUST BE THAT SHIROU'S FAULT! GEEZ, HE MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN LOST IN THE FOREST.
KIRA,
LET'S NOT WAIT FOR THEM ANYMORE, WE'RE EATING FIRST—
ばたん



because he was worried that I might get lonely...

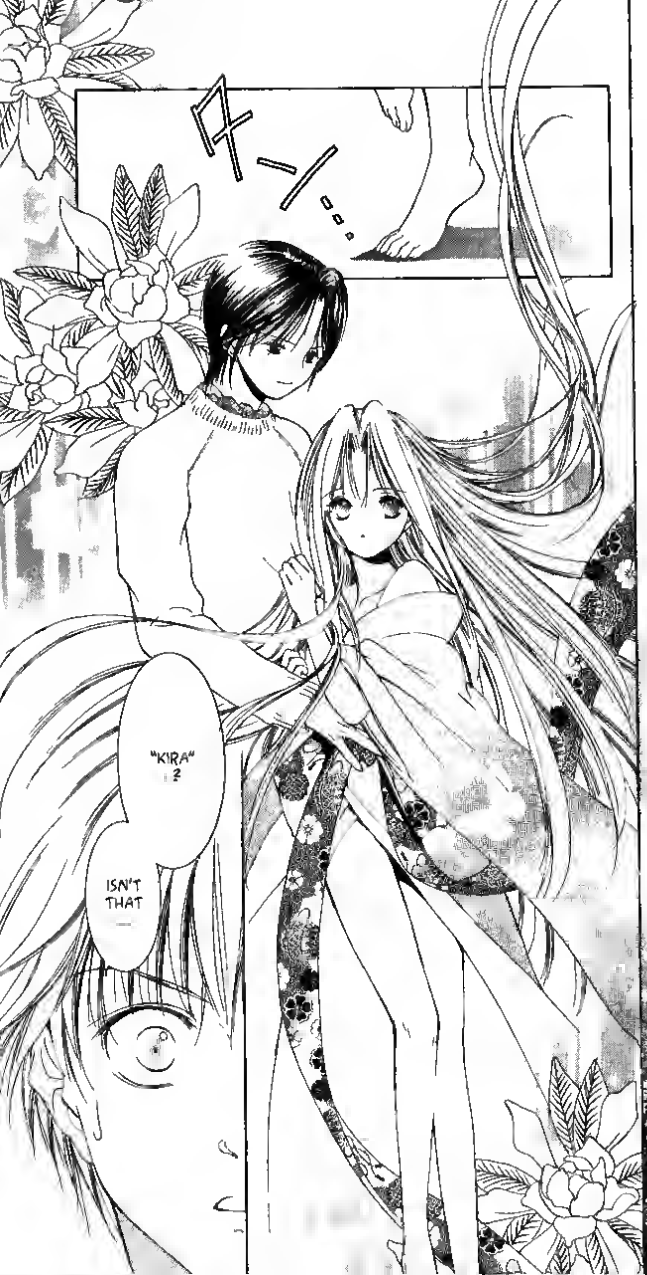
Kira was the present from Nii-chan.

THEY DESIRE YOUR BODY, ALL THEY WANT IS TO DEVOUR YOU...
THE DEMONS
FROM NOW ONWARDS, THEY WILL KEEP CHASING AFTER YOU LIKE BEFORE..
THERE WILL BE TIME YOU HAVE TO WITNESS YOUR LOVED ONE HURT!? ...
So what Kuga said before...
meant like this...
...“regret”...?
YOU'RE STILL FINE WITH THAT, HIME?

to be fine with that!
How the heck am I able...
I don't want to see anyone die on me.
I just want to live a normal life with Nii-chan.
SO what's so wrong with that desire?
I don't want to have Nii-chan involved in this.
I don't want to bother Kuga anymore.

AS LONG AS THERE IS SOMEONE WITH ME, I'LL KEEP REMAINING STRONG LIKE THAT!
Only care for myself and my loved one... what's so wrong with that?
DON'T LEAVE ME ALONE...
PLEASE ANYONE...
COME BACK TO MY SIDE YOU IDIOTS...
カタ!

DEMON ..!!
NO..
WERE YOU ATTACKED BY WILD WOLVES?
DIDN'T YOU JUST COME FROM THE MOUNTAIN?
I MET THEM..
HAVE YOU SEEN THREE GUYS THERE?
MY FRIEND IS STILL IN THE FOREST, PLEASE HELP ME SAVE HIM..!
sfx: uhwah
I DON'T KNOW WHAT ABOUT OTHER TWO..
AND THE UNIFORM-WEARING GUY WENT TO LOOK FOR THAT DEMON ALREADY
"WHAT'S SO WRONG ABOUT IT?"
Shirou ...!!


Just like everyone else...
I just don't wish to see other get hurt...
"KIRA"
ISN'T THAT

The fox of that man...?
DIDN'T IT DIE AT THAT TIME ALREADY...
AND THE FOX'S NAME IS...
THE FACT THAT KAZUKI IS THOSE DEMON'S TARGET,
YOU ALREADY KNEW ABOUT IT?
YEAH,
ANIMAL FORM JUST CAN BE FRIENDS WITH KAZUKI,
BUT CANNOT PROTECT HER
SHE WASN'T DEAD, JUST CHANGED TO ANOTHER FORM
PROTECT

JUST HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW...?
YOU FINALLY
EVERY-THING.

AH... ABOUT THAT...
I'M ASKING YOU!
SO YOU ARE HER MASTER?
GIVING HER SUCH A WEAK AND FRAGILE SHELL BODY,
THEN ORDERING HER TO CHASE AFTER THAT DEMON, WAS IT YOU?
RIGHT, IT WAS ME
AND WHAT ARE YOU SO MAD ABOUT?

USING WHAT METHOD TO PROTECT KAZUKI IS MY OWN FREEDOM.
IT DOESN'T CONCERN YOU.
BUT IF YOU KEEP LETTING HER FIGHT IN THAT STATE...
IF THAT WAS THE CASE...
I COULD SUMMON ANOTHER SHIKIGAMI TO PROTECT HER...
WHAT IF SHE MIGHT BE DEAD...
SHIROU, CALM DOWN!

I'M ACTING ON MY OWN WILL!
AND WHAT'S ABOUT YOU?! USING YOUR OWN FAMILY LIKE AN OBJECT, FINISH USING THEN THROW THEM AWAY...!
AREN'T YOU FIGHTING FOR KAZUKI'S SAKE AS WELL?
SAME GOES TO HER
IT'S NOT THE SAME!
WHILE YOU'RE STANDING THERE WITH SUCH A COLD EYES!
SAY SOME-THING!
STOP IT, SHIROU! IT DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU KEEP SAYING..!

DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS, KUGA?!
THAT KAZUKI'S "KNOW-ABOUT-NOTHING" BROTHER ALREADY KNEW EVERYTHING?!
WHY THE HELL DIDN'T HE TELL KAZUKI WHILE SHE WAS SO WORRIED ABOUT HER BROTHER!
CALM DOWN!
WHY ARE YOU SPEAKING FOR SUCH A GUY!
CALM DOWN A BIT, CAN'T YOU!
IT WAS INDEED LIKE MASAKI SAID, THIS IS NOT ISSUE THAT YOU SHOULD STICK YOUR HAND INTO
And when did I speak for him...
AND FIRSTLY
WHY ARE YOU SO EXAGGERATED ABOUT THAT FOX?
SHI KOU...
アア...

KUGA
Grr
NI-
NII-CHAN
SHIROU!
KAZUKI-SAMA!
SHE'S COMING IN THE FOREST!
WORST ...
IF THAT DEMON FINDS HER...

KIRA, BEFORE THAT DEMON FINDS KAZUKI, FINISH IT!
WAIT!
IDIOT! YOU'VE BEEN HURT ALREADY. HOW CAN YOU FIGHT AGAINST THAT DEMON!
WHAT IS THE TRUTH AFTER ALL?
ABOUT THAT FOX...

HER BODY WAS AT ITS LIMIT,
IN THAT ANIMAL FORM, SHE WOULD BE ABLE TO EXIST FOR A LONG TIME BUT JUST BARELY.
UNLESS THERE WAS A BETTER METHOD
I HAD NO CHOICE AT THAT TIME
KIRA BELONGS TO KAZUKI,
I JUST HELPED RETURN HER TO KAZUKI.
...
WASN'T IT BETTER TO SAY THAT TO HIM BACK THEN?

IF I SAID...
WOULD HE CHANGE...?
ザザザザッ
WAIT, KIRA!
Doesn't she hear me calling her!
I'M TELLING YOU TO WAIT!
ムカッ
I TOLD YOU TO WAIT--

DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME?
YOU WHOLE BODY IS HURT ALREADY, I KNOW YOU'RE EXHAUSTED.
HOW ARE YOU PLANNING TO FIGHT THAT DEMON IN THIS CONDITION?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING.
WHAT "HOW TO FIGHT"?
STOP DOING THESE NONSENSE THINGS
DON'T YOU FEEL BETRAYED?
BE THROWN AWAY AFTER THEY'VE DONE WITH YOU...
YOU CAN'T FIGHT WITHOUT ANY WEAPON! WE CAN'T DEFEAT HIM LIKE THAT!

NON-SENSE, YOU SAY.?
ANIMALS CAN DIE, WHICH MEANS THEIR DUTY HAS ENDED
AND THEY CAN GO BACK THEN
YOU'RE SAYING KIRA IS NOT ES-SENTIAL.?
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT!
ENTERING SAMSRA,
THERE WILL BE A DAY THAT YOU CAN RETURN TO THIS WORLD

YOU CAN START YOUR NEW LIFE AGAIN.
IN THE NEXT LIFE, YOU DON'T HAVE TO TAKE THIS FORM,
AFTER SEVERAL YEARS, TENS OF YEARS, HUNDREDS OF YEARS...
NO.
IF THIS PAIN MEANS I'M ALIVE...
THEN IT DOESN'T MATTER TO ME...
THAT'S NOT KIRA ANYMORE!

IF KIRA IS NOT KIRA ANY-MORE...
SHE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO...
KAZUKI-SAMA WILL NOT BE ABLE TO FIND KIRA
CALL OUT KIRA'S NAME.
SHIROU!
!?
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
I HEARD THAT A DEMON APPEARED, I WAS SO ANXIOUS...

KAZUKI
-SAMA!
MY GOD! YOU'RE SERIOUSLY WOUNDED!
COME TO MY HOUSE, I'LL HELP YOU TREAT...
!!
WHO IS SHE?
YOUR FRIEND?

I'M FINE
DEMON WILL BE FINISHED SOON.
PLEASE DON'T BE ANXIOUS
THINGS WILL END SOON, THERE-FORE—

PLEASE GO BACK
INSIDE THE BARRIER.
"I'M FINE"
"EVERYTHING WILL END SOON".
HEY, WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT KID?
WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO CATCH UP WITH HER IF WE CHASE AFTER HER RIGHT NOW
URG...

GET BACK TO YOUR ROOM RIGHT NOW!
DIDN'T I TELL THAT THEY'RE TARGETING YOU?!
WH-
HAVE SOME COMMON SENSE, CAN'T YOU?
WHAT?
STOP RUNNING AND FOOLING AROUND!
WHAT...!
WHAT THE HECK! THAT'S MY LINE!
THIS IS NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS! NONE AT ALL!

I DON'T NEED THAT THING ANYMORE,
TAKE IT AND GO AWAY!
IS THAT OKAY ALREADY?
I DON'T NEED A GUY THAT IS EVEN WEAKER THAN ME TO PROTECT ME!
WEREN'T YOU ONLY THINKING OF TAKING THAT SWORD AWAY?
"YOU CAN GO BACK NOW"
"YOU AND HER HAVE NO RELATION ALREADY"
"YOU SAID THAT BY YOURSELF DIDN'T YOU?"
I...
"what am I fighting for after all?"

He already abandoned me,
Forgot everything about me,
There is no point to remain here already.
That person no longer exist!
MY LIFE IS THEIR TARGET,
BUT I WON'T GIVE IT UP THAT EASILY.
IF I CAN RUN AWAY FROM IT, I ALSO WANT TO DO THAT...
LIVING A NORMAL HAPPY LIFE...
IT WAS BECAUSE I... ONLY THINK FOR MYSELF
...
BUT,

I ALSO DON'T WISH TO SEE YOUR SORROWFUL EXPRESSION AGAIN...
DON'T INVOLVE YOURSELF IN DANGER TOO MUCH BECAUSE OF ME HURRY UP AND GO BACK
YOU'RE CLEARLY SO POWERLESS, DON'T FORCE YOURSELF
THIS IS MY LIFE, I WILL MAKE MY OWN DECISIONS BY MYSELF DON'T YOU WORRY

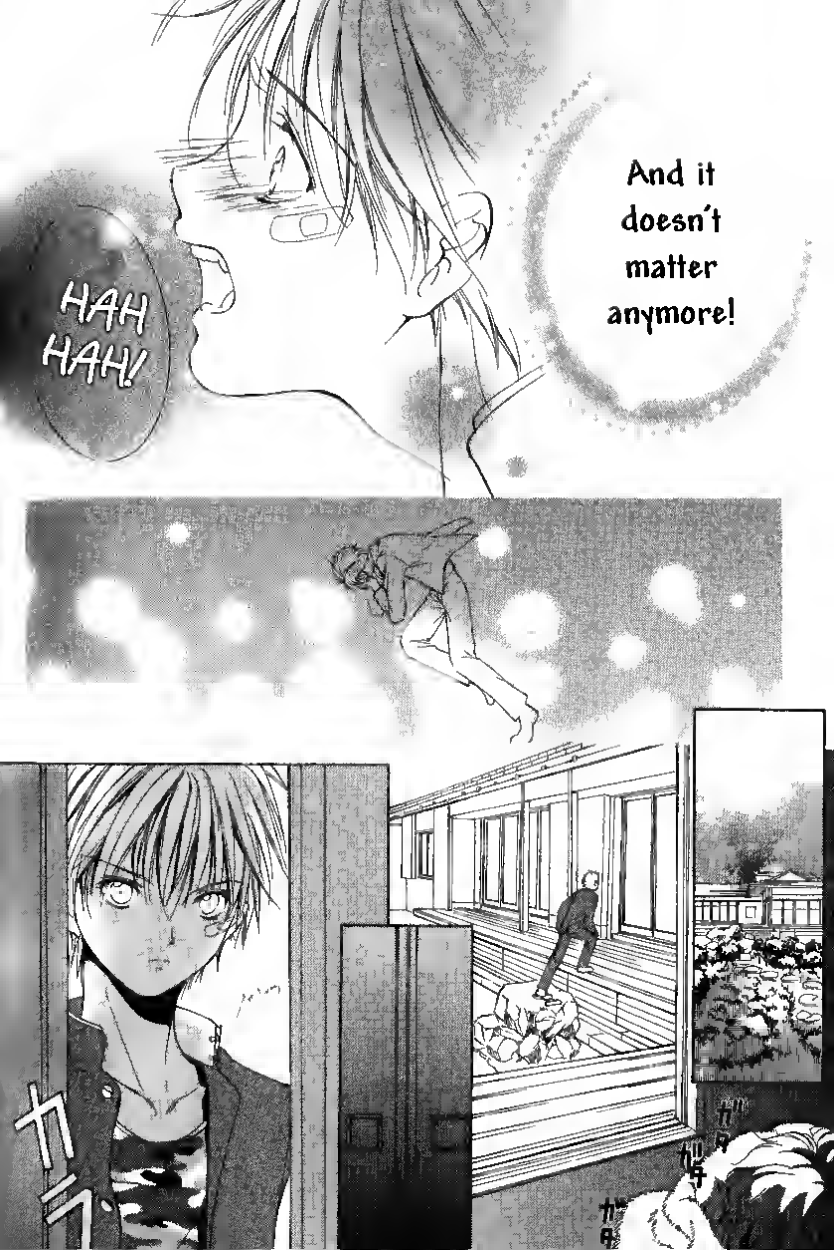
I WANNA GET STRONGER, WANNA BE HELPFUL FOR YOU.
PLEASE CHANGE ME BACK INTO DEMON FORM!
AKOU MARU-SAMA!
THE CURRENT ME CAN DO NOTHING.
YOU'RE FINE LIKE THIS ALREADY.
JUST BEING YOURSELF IS ENOUGH ALREADY
ISN'T IT FINE? LIKE THIS, YOU CAN ALWAYS REMAIN BY MY SIDE...
NAME
SHIROU ...

?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING ..
SHIROU?
MY NAME ...
DO YOU STILL REMEMBER ..?

...
OF...
What's that?
What?
OF COURSE IT DOES!
Women Allergy
I forgot that I can't touch women!

OF COURSE THERE IS RELATION.
IT'S RELATED TO ME!
This time, it's my turn to protect you!

What's up?
WHAT THE HECK! SUDDENLY HUG ME!
SHIROU!?
Shirou's Home
AH...!
SHIROU!
HOU!
HOU!
HOU!
SHIROU!
I hope she can regain the memory about me,
I just hope she feels that she needs me!
SHIROU!
I hope she will tell that my life still has some meanings
And it didn't ...
I hope she can let me remain my her side!
HOU!


HAH HAH!
And it doesn't matter anymore!
カラ
カラ
カラ

AREN'T YOU AGAINST ME AGAIN TODAY?
NIHON NO KAMI! (GOD OF JAPAN)
YOU REALLY CAN READ PEOPLE'S MIND CAN'T YOU?
THEN, YOU'D HAVE KNOWN THAT...
I HATE YOU THE MOST!
IF YOU HADN'T GIVEN AKOU MARU-SAMA THE POWER OF RESURRECTING ME
I WOULD HAVE DIED QUIETLY

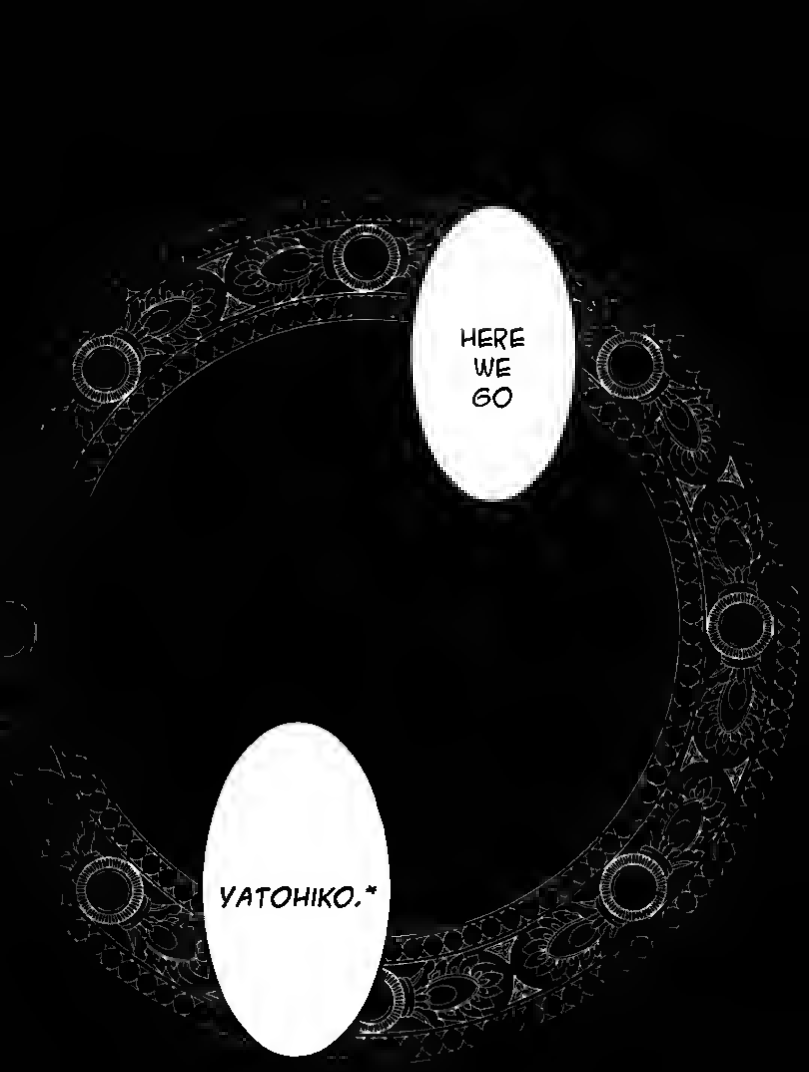
"SHIROU!"
THERE WOULD HAVE HAD BEEN NO "SHIROU" EXISTING IN THIS WORLD,
I WOULDN'T HAVE TO BE SUFFERING SO MUCH
ONLY IF YOU WILL LET ME RETURN TO THE "NO NAME" STATE, WITHOUT YOUR POWER, I CAN STILL FIGHT,
WITHOUT YOU, THESE FEELINGS, THESE RELATION-SHIPS, WOULD HAVE DISAPPEARED, I WOULD HAVE BEEN SO CAREFREE,...
THAT WAS MY WISH IN THE FIRST PALCE. BUT...

THE WISH TO PROTECTING KAZUKI, AREN'T YOU AND ME THE SAME?
BECAUSE I...
ALREADY CARRIED THIS NAME
THEREFORE,
LET'S MAKE AN OFFICIAL DEAL.

then I will protect this name
If you named me,
As long as you call for me
IT'S NOT THAT I WANT TO BORROW YOUR POWER.
keep living
I must
BUT I WANT TO BECOME YOUR HANDS.
IS IT POSSIBLE?

I just hope that she would call out my name.

My wish has been fulfilled.



*Yatohiko (夜刀彦) = The Night Sword